Amendments to the Claims:

1. **(Currently amended)** A fastener for continually exerting a tightening torque to a fastening member fixedly screwed onto a mounting base, comprising a torsion coil spring formed in a winding shape so as to be inserted in an axial direction into ~~said~~ the aforesaid fastening member and having a fixing end to be fixed onto ~~said~~ the aforesaid mounting base, and a detachable stopper ~~for restraining said torsion coil spring in a state of accumulating a tightening torque~~ fitted to said torsion coil spring, said torsion coil spring releasing the tightening torque accumulated thereby when removing said stopper to apply the tightening torque to the fastening member.

2. **(Original)** The fastener according to claim 1, wherein said stopper is formed in a ring so as to be fitted to the outer periphery of said torsion coil spring.

3. **(Currently amended)** The fastener according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein said torsion coil spring is formed in a cylindrical shape so as to be retained without change in diameter by means of said stopper and radially expand gradually larger in diameter toward said fixing end of said torsion coil spring into a cylindrical cone shape when released from said stopper.

4. **(Currently amended)** The fastener according to claim 2 ~~or claim 3~~, wherein said stopper formed in a ring has a flange projecting outward from its end face.

5. **(Original)** The fastener according to claim 1, wherein said stopper is formed of a wire member for restraining said torsion coil spring in the axially piled direction of said torsion coil spring.

6. **(Original)** The fastener according to claim 1, wherein said stopper is formed of a frame member for restraining said torsion coil spring in the axially piled direction of said spring.

7. **(Original)** The fastener according to claim 6, wherein said stopper is provided with a finger hook for placing a finger thereon.

8. **(New)** The fastener according to claim 2, wherein said torsion coil spring is formed in a cylindrical shape so as to be retained without change in diameter by means of said stopper and radially expand gradually larger in diameter toward said fixing end of said torsion coil spring into a cylindrical cone shape when released from said stopper.

9. **(New)** The fastener according to claim 3, wherein said stopper formed in a ring has a flange projecting outward from its end face.